



The Masonic excursion as represented by a committee of three took place on July 16 and as was expected, under the present management, it was a perfect failure. The several subordinate lodges appointed a committee of ten members to form a joint committee of 120 for the purpose of raising funds with which to defray the expenses of refurnishing the Lodge room. This committee gave two excursions last year both of which were a success. How and by what authority this committee was reduced to three no one seems to be able to answer. \$125 have been borrowed from the Lodges and it appears that \$50 more is owed to Lansburgh and Company. This indebtedness must be paid. Neither the general committee nor the craft can be charged with this miserable failure as an attempt to give a Masonic excursion. Not a third of the committee nor a fourth of the craft knew that there was going to be an excursion. Brother Cooper who gives us so much space in his paper to publish what is being done by the craft could not be given an advertisement of this excursion. Let the committee convene at once and reorganize with a view to devise ways and means to liquidate the present indebtedness.

Brother Fred Webster of Social is with the militia at Leesburg, Va. Hope this outing will do him much good.

Sir Grand Deacon F. J. Cardoza is on the firing line at Leesburg, Va. Brave man Cardoza who fights "the Injuns."

We hope the brethren will come forward and pay up. Don't force us to publish names of those who will not pay.

During the grand mastership of the king £1,750,000 has been paid into the benevolent fund of the Grand Lodge and for three Masonic charities.

Brothers Pendleton, Cheatham Hutchins, Naylor, Douglass and a host of others were conspicuous by their absence on the excursion. How could it be a success?

In vain we looked on the excursion for Brothers Pitts, Hyman, Cousins, Turner, Hanno and the rest of the faithful. Sad were our hearts and silent the multitude when they came not.

Brother Edward Hunter of Prince Hall is afflicted with a sick wife and daughter. May a merciful Providence soon restore them to health is the devout wish of all who know Brother Hunter.

Brethren always ready and anxious to lecture newly made Masons upon their duties should apply these teachings in their own conduct. It's a poor physician who is afraid of his own medicine.

Brother Abraham Slaughter of Datch and Companion Sister Mary C. Slaughter of Eliza Chapter will leave early in August for an extended tour through Cuba visiting Havana and other places of prominence.

Brother J. H. Jackson, Master of Meridian Lodge deserves to especially thank Brothers Weatherless, Underwood, Henry, Layton, Nalle, Smith, Tucker, Posey and other visiting Brothers for the assistance on Friday night last.

Brother Evans of Pythagoras is much worried that more is not said about his Lodge and claims that she is still the leading Lodge although she gave up

her jewel, and he says wait until Arnett gets to the East then we will see where jewel goes. Who is Cheatham, Arnett and Jackson? They are never seen in the Grand Lodge.

The craft is fortunate in having a Grand Lecturer who strives to deserve the title. He is making an earnest effort to eradicate errors and harmonize the work of the different lodges, and to that end, has offered some valuable suggestions. While it is probable that he may not take his view of certain questions, yet, discussion will bring out all sides of a controversy, the result of which will be highly beneficial. Brother Mays believes in improvement where possible, and perfection is still a long distance off.

We regret to note the fact that Past Grand Master Henry Coleman met with a very serious accident on Friday last on the steamboat River Queen by falling through the hatchway; the wonder is that he was not killed. A thorough examination was made by Doctor Martin on his return to the city and no bones were found broken, but that he was badly shaken up. When seen on Sunday Brother Coleman was somewhat improved.

The most impressive moment was when the installation was proclaimed and the vast concourse, with blue regalia and white gloves, saluted the new grand master. The music throughout the ceremony was splendidly rendered. Grand Master Hozier of Scotland and the Duke of Abercorn, grand master of Ireland, made short addresses, and telegrams of congratulation were read from the colonies. Lord Milner, the Bishop of Calcutta and the lord mayor of London were present to receive advancement in the craft, and honors were conferred on Lord Kitchener.

Meridian Lodge No. 6 is coming to the front by leaps and bounds, and it behooves the rest to watch out. Brothers John H. Jackson, W. M., Joseph W. Lee, S. W., and Alfred Bagby, J. W., are doing their best to promote the interests of their Lodge and the result is seen in increased attendance and a large number of applications. At their June communication nearly \$50 was collected and a number of applications received. The fidelity of the W. M., is shown when it is known that he attended the labors of his Lodge on his occasion while his youngest offspring lay at home a corpse. Such a brother deserves the warmest praise and in him Meridian possesses a jewel.

Sir Knight McKenzie Scott is still confined to his house; it is indeed refreshing to visit this Sir Knight and witness the devotion of his friend, brother and companion Sir Knight George S. Newman, never growing weary in his efforts to administer to his wants. During the past week three members of Simons Commandery have visited this loyal but disabled Sir Knight not an officer among the three and yet Simons Commandery has eighty or more Sir Knights. What does it mean? This Past Generalissimo of Simons Commandery lies sick unto death and Sir Knights can't find time to give a word of cheer while so many live within a radius of two squares. What does it mean Sir Knights?

On Friday July 19th, Meridian Lodge conferred the 1st and 3rd degrees on several candidates. Notwithstanding the weather an immense audience was present, including many visitors. Brothers Layton, Nalle, Tucker, Curry, Smith, Turner, and Watson of Eureka, Stewart and Underwood of Felix, Malvin, Freeman, Bailey, Tompkins and Pryor of Social; Jones of Widows' Son; Weatherless of Pythagoras; Drew, Browne, Simms, Winfield, Carter, Jackson, McCary, Paynter and Henry

of Prince Hall; and Jackson of King Solomon, Baltimore were some of those present. Many of the above were invited by the officers of Meridian to assist in the labors, and a splendid exemplification of the work was given. As many did not remain to the collation it would be cruel to enumerate the good things spread before us or enlarge upon the manner in which that part of the "work" was executed. Suffice it to say all came away satisfied and determined to remember Meridian's dates in future.

Special to the Masonic Column:—Let the brethren proclaim it East, West, North and South:—

DUKE MADE GRAND MASTER.

CONNAUGHT SUCCEEDS EDWARD VII AS HEAD OF BRITISH MASONS.

Eleven thousand English Freemasons Thursday July 18 attended the installation of the Duke of Connaught as grand master of the United Grand Lodge, in succession to Edward VII, at London. Albert Hall was thronged with members of the Grand Lodge, past and present, and with the masters and wardens of English lodges, as it was in 1875, when the Prince of Wales was placed on the Masonic throne. The ceremony was virtually the same as at the installation of the Prince of Wales, and was most solemn and impressive. The Grand Lodge officers entirely filled the orchestra and chorus seats. The Duke of Connaught was welcomed by a fanfare of trumpets, and the national anthem was sung by an enormous gathering. He was installed by Earl Amherst, pro-grand master, assisted by the Earl of Warwick, deputy grand master. The duke made an excellent address, and referred to the fact that for many years the royal family had been closely associated with Freemasonry. George IV, William IV, Edward VII, the Duke of Kent, the Duke of Cumberland, the Duke of Sussex, the Duke of Albany and the Duke of Clarence having been connected with it.

Arundel on the Bay—Notes.

During the past week this favorite resort of Washingtonians reminded one of Atlantic City during the month of August. Sunday the bath houses both at Highland Beach and Arundel were taxed to their utmost capacity.

Saturday last Major and Mrs. Chas. R. Douglass entertained fifty at a dance and whist party. Their spacious parlors afforded ample room for the "negleesee" dancers, while the broad piazza's illuminated by Japanese lanterns accommodated four tables of whist players. Among those present besides the host and hostess, were: Dr. and Mrs. Francis, Dr. and Mrs. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Tyson, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Colbert, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Hilyer, Ex-Congressman and Mrs. Geo. H. White, Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Baker, Mr. Robert Harlan and Mrs. Mamie Marshall, Mr. Wyatt Archer and Miss Mamie Shepherd, Mr. B. C. Waller and Mrs. Shepherd, Mr. Jas. Harrison and Miss Jannie Freeman, Mr. W. E. Cobb and Miss Eula Ross, Miss Irma Richardson, Mr. T. B. Green and Miss Helen Johnson, Mr. Will Atwood and the Misses Tyson, Mr. Haley Douglass and Miss Hattie Curtis, Miss Mamie White, the Messrs. Francis and the Misses Freeman, Miss Perry and others.

Miss Janie Freeman and Miss Irma Richardson gave a "small and early" party same evening at their cottage "Idle Hour" having as their guests those attending the dance.

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